

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BEIRUT 04216 111422 Z

42

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ADP-00 NEAE-00 INRE-00 IO-12 USSS-00

SY-07 M-03 A-01 OPR-02 OC-06 OMB-01 AID-20 RSR-01

CIAE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03

RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 /142 W
----- 039570

P R 111340 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1595

INFO USINT ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

USUN NEW YORK 2263

DIA WASHDC

USINT BAGHDAD

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 4216

DEPT PASS USINT CAIRO

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, PINS, LE, US, IS

SUBJ: LEBANESE CABINET RESIGNATION

REF: BEIRUT 4176 (NOTAL)

1. WHILE WE DO NOT YET HAVE FULL ACCOUNT FROM ANY OF
DIRECT PARTICIPANTS, PIECING TOGETHER VARIOUS ACCOUNTS,
IT APPEARS THAT PM SALAM' S DECISION TO SUBMIT CABINET' S
RESIGNATION WAS, INTER ALIA, PROMPTED BY PRES. FRANCIE' S
ADAMANT REFUSAL AT CABINET MEETING APR 10 TO AGREE TO
PM' S DEMAND FOR DISMISSAL OF ARMY COMMANDER GEN. CHANEM.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BEIRUT 04216 111422 Z

AND SEVERAL OTHER HIGH- RANKING LEBANESE OFFICERS FOR WHAT SALAM REGARDS AS THEIR NEGLIGENCE RE APR 10 IDF RAID. SALAM-- HAS HEAD FULL OF BITTER (AND LARGELY FALSE) RECRIMINATIONS LEVELLED AGAINST ARMY BY ' ARAFAT, FEDAYEEN, AND LEBANESE LEFTISTS AND ANXIOUS TO PRESERVE HIS STANDING WITH MOSLEM " STREET"-- MAY HAVE DECIDED TO QUIT AND DISSOCIATE HIMSELF FROM GOL BEFORE MASSIVE PRO- FEDAYEEN PUBLIC DEMONSTRATIONS SCHEDULED HERE TODAY AND TOMORROW BRING ANTI- GOL PASSIONS TO BOILING POINT. (ANTI- US AND ANTI- GOL AGITATION BY FEDAYEEN AND LOCAL LEFTIST, " PROGRESSIVE" GROUPS REPORTED BEIRUT 4186 (NOTAL) CONTINUES MOUNT, WITH WILD ACCUSATIONS OF GOL " COLLUSION" WITH CIA AND ISRAELIS IN APR 10 ATTACK GAINING INCREASING CURRENCY AND WITH APPEALS CONTINUING FOR UNPREDICENTEDLY MASSIVE POPULAR TURN- OUT AT FUNERAL OF FEDAYEEN LEADERS APR 12 IN HUGE SHOW OF PROTEST AGAINST ANTI- FEDAYEEN " CONSPIRACY" IN LEBANON.)

2. WHILE OUTCOME UNCERTAIN, WE BELIEVE IT PROBABLE PRES. WILL ACCEPT SALAM'S RESIGNATION, SINCE FRANGIE OPPOSED TO SADDLING ARMY LEADERS WITH RESPONSIBILITY FOR SUCCESS OF ISRAELI RAID AND SINCE IT SEEMS SALAM UNLIKELY RETRACT HIS INSISTENCE ON THEIR DISMISSAL. (IN THIS CONNECTION, SALAM'S BEHAVIOR REMINDS US STRONGLY OF FORMER PM KARAME'S RESIGNATION IN 1969 IN FACE OF PRESSURE BY FEDAYEEN AND THEIR LOCAL SYMPATHIZERS.) AMBASSADOR WAS CONFIDENTIALLY INFORMED BY PRESIDENCY SOURCE APR 11 THAT PRES. HAS ORDERED GEN. GHANEM TO TAKE ALL DISCREET MEASURES NECESSARY FOR PROTECTION OF THIS EMBASSY AND THAT, IN MEANTIME, HE IS ENGAGED IN EFFORTS RESOLVE CABINET CRISIS IN FASHION CALCULATED TO CALM " HEATED SPIRITS". (WE PRESUME THIS MEANS INCLUSION OF SOME LEFTIST POLITICIANS IN NEW CABINET.) WHILE SOME QUARTERS SPECULATE THAT MOSLEM PTT MINISTER JAMIL KEBBE (KNOWN FOR HIS CLOSE TIES WITH SALAM) MAY BE ASKED FORM NEW CABINET, IT IS POSSIBLE THAT PRES. MAY TURN TO SOMEONE LIKE 71- YEAR OLD FORMER (1951) PM AND SECRETARY OF COUNCIL OF MINISTERS NAZIM ' AKKARI, WHO POSSESSES ADVANTAGE OF GOOD TIES NOT ONLY WITH SALAM BUT ALSO WITH HIS MOSLEM AND/ OR LEFTIST OPPONENTS, NOTABLY KARAME AND KAMAL JUMBLATT. BUFFUM

NOTE BY OC/ T: NOT PASSED CAIRO.
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 BEIRUT 04216 111422 Z

CONFIDENTIAL

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 APR 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973BEIRUT04216
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: RR
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: BEIRUT
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730439/aaaaictp.tel
Line Count: 117
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 73 BEIRUT 4176 (NOTAL)
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12 OCT 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <12-Oct-2001 by eisnerah>; APPROVED <15-Nov-2001 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> gwr 971218
Subject: LEBANESE CABINET RESIGNATION
TAGS: PGOV, PINS, IS, LE, US
To: ALGIERS
AMMAN
JIDDA
KUWAIT
NEA
NICOSIA
RABAT

SECSTATE WASHDC

TEL AVIV

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005